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HALL OF RECORDS
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ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

TERCENTENARY HISTORY
OF
MARYLAND

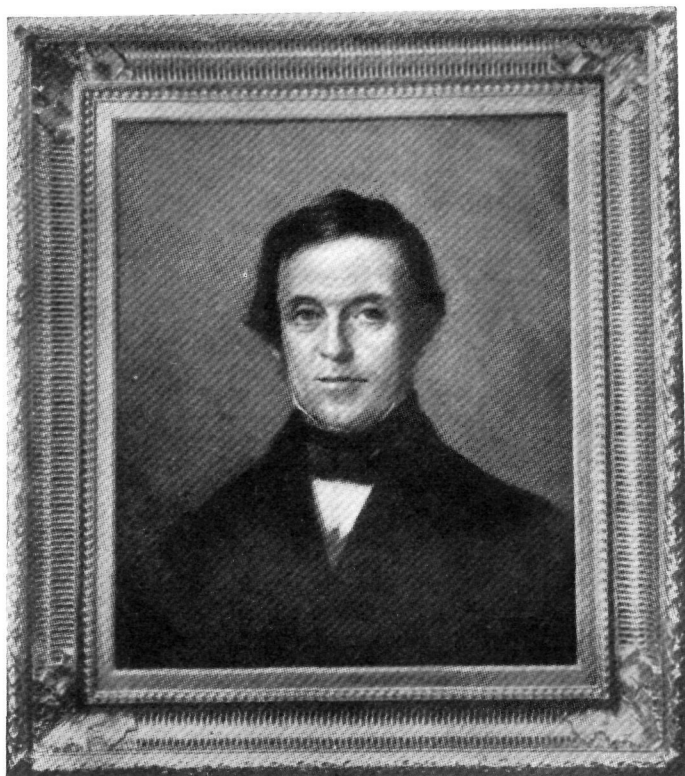
EMBODYING
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORDS OF COLONISTS, PIONEERS, JUDGES,
GOVERNORS, MILITARY OFFICERS, ETC.

COMPILED PRINCIPALLY BY
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DAVID MAULDEN PERINE (1796-1882)
From the painting by Sully in 1852 in the possession of Washington Perine

more Town, he bought property there on August 10, 1793. He married, October 22, 1793, Hephzibah Brown of Greenwich township, Gloucester county, New Jersey. She was born November 15, 1769, died November 4, 1832, and was buried at "Job's Addition," known since 1835 as "Homeland." Of the seven children of David Brown (1735-1816) and his wife Susanna, of New Jersey, she was the only daughter. The Browns were of English descent, their ancestors, belonging to the Society of Friends, came over with Lord Berkeley upon the first settlement of New Jersey, and resided in Berkeley in Gloucester county.

Maulden and Hephzibah Perine had two children, a daughter, who died in infancy, and a son, David Maulden Perine (1796-1882). Two years after the death of her husband, Hephzibah Perine married, second, on November 10, 1799, William Buchanan (1747-1824), widower, the register of wills for Baltimore county (and city) for forty-five years, from 1779 until his death. By her second marriage, Hephzibah Buchanan had five children, namely: William J. (1801-1817), James Madison (1803-1876), George (1805-1807), Susan (1806-1887), and Charles Adams (1808-1891).

DAVID MAULDEN PERINE (1796-1882).

David Maulden Perine, son of Maulden and Hephzibah Perine, was born August 8, 1796, in Baltimore Town, and educated first at a school kept by John Deaver at the southwest corner of Charles and Fayette streets, and later at boarding schools near Baltimore.

In December, 1810, at fourteen years of age, he was placed as a clerk in the office of the register of wills in Baltimore City by his stepfather. At this time the office force, exclusive of the register, consisted of a chief clerk and one clerk for recording. In September, 1811, the chief clerk left, and at the same period the health of the register became so impaired that he was never again able to get to the office. This combination of circumstances produced a situation, probably without a parallel, in that David M. Perine found himself in sole charge of this important office at fifteen years of age, and that, too, with but nine months training in its operation.

For the following thirteen years, however, until the death of William Buchanan, on December 19, 1824, and with the assistance of but one recording clerk, he conducted this office so efficiently, that on January 6, 1825, he was appointed register by the governor, and elected by the legislature. To conform to a change in the constitution (1836-7), he was reappointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate on February 1, 1845, and continued as register until he retired in November, 1851, having been in actual charge of this office for forty years, during which time he had been the register for twenty-seven years.

It may be of interest here to note that aside from Baltimore county, which also came within the jurisdiction of this office, the population of Baltimore City was approximately forty-eight thousand in 1811; seventy-two thousand in 1825; and one hundred and seventy thousand in 1851. Also, that this office created in 1776 and in operation in 1777, was conducted by stepfather and stepson for an unbroken period of seventy-two years, from 1779 to 1851.

On April 1, 1814, at the age of seventeen and a half years, he became a member of a Volunteer Artillery Company under the command of Captain Richard B. Magruder, attached to the First Regiment of Artillery, M. M. On April 15, 1818, he was appointed "adjutant of the Fifty-second Regiment of this state, in the city of Baltimore." On March 13, 1817, he rented "Pew No. 122 in St. Paul's church, Baltimore, for which he is to pay the annual rent of twenty dollars." His son was still a pewholder in this church in 1922, one hundred and five years later. On October 23, 1817, he joined the Masons, being initiated into Corinthian Lodge No. 54, on that date.

He was married, on March 1, 1818, to Mary Glenn, eldest daughter and second child of the eight children of Elias Glenn (1769-1846), of Maryland, and his wife Ann Carson (1770-1847), of Delaware, married August 21, 1794. Mary Glenn was born in Elkton, Cecil county, on March 30, 1797, and died September 29, 1861, at her husband's country-seat "Homeland" in Baltimore county. There were eight children of this marriage, namely: Ann Carson (1819-1919), Susan Buchanan (1820-1899), Mary Glenn (1822-1896), William Buchanan (1823-1863), Rebecca Young (1825-1879), David Maulden (1827-1847), Elias Glenn (1829-1922), and Thomas Harwood (1830-1861).

On September 1, 1819, David M. Perine purchased for his residence "No. 6 Liberty street," today No. 207, and all of his children were born here except his

eldest daughter. This property, converted for business purposes, is still in the possession of his descendants, one hundred and five years later. When his mother, Hephzibah Perine, married again in 1799, her second husband, William Buchanan, was the owner of a country-seat in Baltimore county, a tract of one hundred and fifty acres known as "Job's Addition," bought by him in 1797. Its area, describing it as of today, was: Lying on the east side of Charles Street avenue, extending from Homeland avenue to the line of Belvedere avenue, and having an average easterly depth of about two thousand feet. At the time, of course, none of the above avenues had been opened, and the entrance to the place was from the York road.

Taken to "Job's Addition" in 1799 as a child of three and a half years of age, David M. Perine grew up here, and became so much attached to the place, that on May 15, 1829, he bought from his mother forty-five acres of the property, and on April 1, 1835, he bought the remaining one hundred and five acres from his half-brother, Charles Adams Buchanan (1808-1891). He renamed the tract "Homeland," and so added to it that upon his death in 1882 it comprised about three hundred and ninety acres, and extended from Homeland to Melrose avenues, and from the York road to the tracks of the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad.

In 1839 he took down the original frame dwelling-house, built prior to 1797, and built upon the same site a stone residence ninety-seven feet in length, with front and rear porticos to the second story, each supported by six columns. This house was burnt to the ground on the night of March 7-8, 1843, while the family were in the city for the winter. He again built upon the same site another stone dwelling also ninety-seven feet in length, completed in 1846, and standing today (1924), the walls of which are two feet thick. It is worth mentioning, looking to the date of the building of this house, that he had the bathroom and bedrooms equipped with running hot and cold water at the time of its erection in 1846. In 1840 he built outbuildings of stone, with walls two feet thick; seven-room overseer's house, carriage stable for eight horses and six carriages, dairy, winter dairy, two chicken houses (since replaced in frame), and stone barn, and seven frame farm buildings, all but five of which fourteen buildings are standing today (1924). At the same time he had dug six ornamental lakes, laid out walks and driveways, and planted fruit and shade trees. In 1854, Charles Street avenue was opened through "Homeland," and he then had made two entrances to the place from the avenue.

On September 10, 1856, as a site for the building of the Episcopal "Church of the Redeemer," he gave about one and one-half acres of land on the east side of Charles street near Melrose avenue, and presented the stone for its erection from a quarry on "Homeland" at the southwest corner of Charles street and Belvedere avenues. On July 23, 1864, he gave an additional lot for the church; and on same date presented about one and one-half acres for the building of a parsonage, and presented the stone for its erection from his quarry. By his will in 1882 he devised to the church about five acres more, making a total of about nine acres in all. The church was erected in 1858, and the parsonage was completed in 1864. About 1855 he bought and remodeled a frame dwelling-house on the west side of Bellona avenue, adjoining "Homeland," to loan to the Church of the Redeemer as a temporary parsonage until they could acquire one, and it was so occupied by their first rector, the Rev. J. Campbell White.

In 1863, it being reported that the property at the southeast corner of Charles street and Homeland avenues, comprising about thirty-three acres, was about to be sold for the purpose of a cemetery, he joined with Joseph Reynolds in the purchase of this property for their mutual protection, and they later sold this land in 1871 for the use of the present Notre Dame Convent.

An interesting incident, practically unknown, is worth reciting here, which occurred at "Homeland" in 1843: Among the buildings erected in 1840 was a summer-house, a short distance northwest of the dwelling-house, and still standing today (1924). The dwelling-house built in 1839 burnt down in March, 1843, as previously stated. While awaiting the building of the present house, it was his custom to go from the city to "Homeland" every Saturday afternoon, and this habit was known to his friends. In June, 1843, an altercation occurred in open court between Reverdy Johnson (1796-1876) and George R. Richardson (1802-1851), in the case of Bunes vs. Vickers, which led to the passing of a challenge for a duel. On a Saturday afternoon shortly after this event, David M. Perine being at "Homeland," a carriage arrived, from which issued Reverdy Johnson come to consult him regarding the prospective duel. The house being in ruins as a result of the fire, they went into the summer-house to sit down. While there,

a second carriage arrived containing George R. Richardson, also come to consult him upon the same matter. Leaving Johnson in the summer-house, he went forward and met Richardson. A lengthy discussion resulted in his persuading Richardson to return with him to the summer-house, where he effected a reconciliation between the prospective adversaries. Their reconciliation in open court on the following Monday is public knowledge. How and where it was brought about is here told for the first time.

Beginning in 1824 (and completed in 1868), he purchased lands in Western Maryland, in that part of Allegany county forming since 1872 Garrett county, and eventually acquired about sixteen hundred and fifty acres. This tract known as "Mount Nebo," situated about two miles north of the present town of Oakland, includes the high ground known as "Hall's Hill," which is shown on the contour miniature in the state house at Annapolis. This property is still in the possession of his descendants, one hundred years later.

During the sixty-three years, from 1819 until his death, he occupied as winter residences: From 1819 to 1831 his dwelling on Liberty street; 1831 to 1843, rented a house on the north side of Lexington street, between Calvert and North streets, today No. 214; 1843 to November, 1851, rented a house on Calvert street, north of Lexington street, today No. 215; 1852 to 1863 lived at "Homeland" for these twelve years, winter and summer; for the winters of 1863-4 he rented houses on North Charles street, today Nos. 716 and 409. In October, 1864, he bought for his permanent town house No. 17 Cathedral street, today No. 607, and it was here that he died on December 24, 1882, in his eighty-seventh year.

Of grave and dignified bearing, upright, just, and of sound judgment, with great knowledge of testamentary matters acquired in his many years in the office of register of wills, he was sought by many persons as an advisor and man of business. A few illustrations of such character may be cited as follows:

In 1832, upon the death of Charles Carroll of Carrollton (1737-1832), considerable litigation arose among his heirs as to his will and large estate. It was finally agreed among the heirs, that Robert Oliver (1758-1834) should give bond as administrator pendente lite, and that David M. Perine should be appointed his attorney to settle the estate. He took charge of the books, papers and estate of Mr. Carroll, and although faced with a difficult and delicate task, as the family were much at variance, he accomplished the settlement in such manner as thereafter to retain the confidence and respect of all those concerned.

He drew the will, and later in 1834 settled the estate of Robert Oliver (1758-1834) of "Green Mount," today Green Mount cemetery. This very large estate, distributed in various states in this country, in England, Ireland, South America, Mexico, Cuba, etc., and subject to the laws of those many places, made its settlement very difficult and laborious, and its completion required many years.

In 1853 he was consulted by Moses Sheppard (1774-1857) regarding his will, already drawn by a prominent member of the bar, devising his estate for a benevolent purpose. After a careful deliberation of the matter, he pointed out three objections that appeared to him to make this form inadvisable for the purpose intended, and advised that a charter be drawn instead of the will to obviate these objections. This meeting with Mr. Sheppard's approval, he drew the charter for the "Sheppard Asylum" (Baltimore county), and it was passed by the legislature. He later prepared a supplement, exempting the institution from the collateral inheritance tax, took it to Annapolis, and it was also passed by the legislature. At the request of the founder he was named as one of the original trustees, and so acted until his resignation in 1878. This is the oldest charter of any largely endowed institution in the state.

He drew the will, and later in 1859 settled the estate of George Brown (1787-1859), second son of Alexander Brown (1764-1834), the founder of the banking house of his name.

In 1864, at the request of the founder, Samuel Ready (1789-1872), he drew the charter for "the Samuel Ready Asylum for Female Orphans," and had this institution also exempted from the collateral inheritance tax. (The above named two institutions, both of which charters were drawn by David M. Perine, are the only ones so exempted in Maryland.)

Of his eight children, he was survived by three daughters and one son. His eldest child, Ann Carson Perine, died in 1919, having passed her hundredth year.

ELIAS GLENN PERINE (1829-1922).

Elias Glenn Perine, his surviving son, named after his grandfather (Judge) Elias Glenn, was born in his father's home on Liberty street, on June 14, 1829.